

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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ROSE SAVIO as administratrix of the Estate of Caitlyn
R. Savio, deceased, and ROSE SAVIO, as an Individual,

13-CIV-5606 (NSR)

Plaintiffs,

-against-

**ANSWER TO
PLAINTIFFS' COMPLAINT**

KAITLYN M. DELPOZZO, LOUIS V. DELPOZZO,
FRANCINE DELPOZZO, MATTHEW DELPOZZO,
NISSAN MOTOR CO., LTD., NISSAN NORTH
AMERICA, INC. and MOTORS GROUP, INC.

Defendants.
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Defendant, Motors Group, Inc. d/b/a Bruce Bennett Nissan ("Bruce Bennett Nissan"), by its attorneys, Herzfeld & Rubin, P.C., as and for its Answer to plaintiffs' Complaint, alleges the following upon information and belief:

1. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "1" of the Complaint.
2. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "2" of the Complaint insofar as the claims are directed to Nissan North America, Inc., Nissan Motor Co., Ltd., and Bruce Bennett Nissan.
3. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "3" of the Complaint on the ground the pleading sets forth legal conclusions, and respectfully refers all questions of law to the Court.

4. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph “4” of the Complaint on the ground the pleading sets forth legal conclusions, and respectfully refers all questions of law to the Court.

5. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “5” of the Complaint.

6. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “6” of the Complaint.

7. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “7” of the Complaint.

8. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “8” of the Complaint.

9. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “9” of the Complaint.

10. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “10” of the Complaint.

11. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “11” of the Complaint.

12. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “12” of the Complaint.

13. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “13” of the Complaint.

14. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "14" of the Complaint.

15. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "15" of the Complaint.

16. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "16" of the Complaint.

17. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "17" of the Complaint.

18. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "18" of the Complaint.

19. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "19" of the Complaint.

20. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "20" of the Complaint.

21. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "21" of the Complaint.

22. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "22" of the Complaint.

23. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "23" of the Complaint.

24. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "24" of the Complaint.

25. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "25" of the Complaint.

26. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "26" of the Complaint.

27. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "27" of the Complaint on the ground the pleading sets forth legal conclusions, and respectfully refers all questions of law to the Court.

28. Admits the allegations contained in paragraph "28" of the Complaint.

29. Admits the allegations contained in paragraph "29" of the Complaint.

30. Admits the allegations contained in paragraph "30" of the Complaint.

31. Admits the allegations contained in paragraph "31" of the Complaint.

32. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "32" of the Complaint.

33. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "33" of the Complaint.

34. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "34" of the Complaint.

35. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "35" of the Complaint.

36. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "36" of the Complaint.

37. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “37” of the Complaint.

38. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “38” of the Complaint.

39. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “39” of the Complaint.

40. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “40” of the Complaint.

41. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “41” of the Complaint.

42. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “42” of the Complaint.

43. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “43” of the Complaint.

44. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “44” of the Complaint.

45. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “45” of the Complaint.

46. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “46” of the Complaint.

47. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “47” of the Complaint.

48. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "48" of the Complaint.

49. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "49" of the Complaint.

50. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "50" of the Complaint.

51. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "51" of the Complaint.

52. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "52" of the Complaint.

53. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "53" of the Complaint.

54. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "54" of the Complaint.

55. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "55" of the Complaint.

56. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "56" of the Complaint.

57. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "57" of the Complaint.

58. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "58" of the Complaint.

59. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "59" of the Complaint.

60. Answering paragraph "60" of the Complaint, Bruce Bennett Nissan repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "1" through "59" of this Answer as though fully set forth at length herein.

61. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "61" of the Complaint.

62. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "62" of the Complaint.

63. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "63" of the Complaint.

64. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "64" of the Complaint, except specifically denies that the vehicle had any defect or malfunction.

65. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "65" of the Complaint.

66. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "66" of the Complaint.

67. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "67" of the Complaint.

68. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "68" of the Complaint on the grounds the pleading is vague and ambiguous, except admits that the 1999 Nissan Pathfinder vehicle bearing VIN JN8AR05Y9XW319885 was within the scope of certain Nissan vehicles that were subject to a voluntary safety recall campaign, referenced by Nissan Campaign ID #R1107 and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Number II-V-244 and Action Number PE11004, due to the possibility of corrosion of strut tower housings from potential snow/water and salt intrusion.

69. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph “69” of the Complaint on the grounds the pleading is vague and ambiguous, except admits that the 1999 Nissan Pathfinder vehicle bearing VIN JN8AR05Y9XW319885 was within the scope of certain Nissan vehicles that were subject to a voluntary safety recall campaign, referenced by Nissan Campaign ID #R1107 and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Number IIV-244 and Action Number PE11004, due to the possibility of corrosion of strut tower housings from potential snow/water and salt intrusion.

70. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph “70” of the Complaint on the ground that the pleading references selective portions of a service bulletin and the pleading is therefore not complete and accurate in its characterization of the provisions of the referenced service bulletin, except admits that service bulletin NTB00-037, dated April 12, 2000, which was subsequently revised by NTB00-037a and NTB00-37b, addressed steering pull, and refers to the complete service bulletin and revisions for the applicable language and provisions.

71. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph “71” of the Complaint on the ground that the pleading references selective portions of a service bulletin and the pleading is therefore not complete and accurate in its characterization of the provisions of the referenced service bulletin, except admits that service bulletin NTB00-037, dated April 12, 2000, which was subsequently revised by NTB00-037a and NTB00-37b, addressed steering pull, and refers to the complete service bulletin and revisions for the applicable language and provisions.

72. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph “72” of the Complaint on the ground that the pleading references selective portions of a service bulletin and the pleading is therefore not complete and accurate in its characterization of the provisions of the referenced

service bulletin, except admits that service bulletin NTB00-037, dated April 12, 2000, which was subsequently revised by NTB00-037a and NTB00-37b, addressed steering pull, and refers to the complete service bulletin and revisions for the applicable language and provisions.

**AS AND FOR AN ANSWER
TO THE FIRST CLAIM**

73. Answering paragraph “73” of the Complaint, Bruce Bennett Nissan repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs “1” through “72” of this Answer as though fully set forth at length herein.

74. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “74” of the Complaint.

75. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “75” of the Complaint.

76. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph “76” of the Complaint on the ground the pleading sets forth legal conclusions, and respectfully refers all questions of law to the Court.

77. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph “77” of the Complaint on the ground the pleading sets forth legal conclusions, and respectfully refers all questions of law to the Court.

78. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “78” of the Complaint.

79. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph “79” of the Complaint.

80. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "80" of the Complaint on the ground the pleading sets forth legal conclusions, and respectfully refers all questions of law to the Court.

81. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "81" of the Complaint on the ground the pleading sets forth legal conclusions, and respectfully refers all questions of law to the Court.

**AS AND FOR AN ANSWER
TO THE SECOND CLAIM**

82. Answering paragraph "82" of the Complaint, Bruce Bennett Nissan repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "1" through "81" of this Answer as though fully set forth at length herein.

83. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "83" of the Complaint.

84. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "84" of the Complaint.

85. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "85" of the Complaint.

86. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "86" of the Complaint.

87. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "87" of the Complaint.

88. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "88" of the Complaint.

89. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "89" of the Complaint.

90. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "90" of the Complaint.

91. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "91" of the Complaint.

92. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "92" of the Complaint.

93. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "93" of the Complaint on the ground the pleading sets forth legal conclusions, and respectfully refers all questions of law to the Court.

94. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "94" of the Complaint.

95. Admits the allegations contained in paragraph "95" of the Complaint.

96. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "96" of the Complaint.

97. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "97" of the Complaint.

98. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "98" of the Complaint.

99. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "99" of the Complaint.

100. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "100" of the Complaint.

101. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "101" of the Complaint.

102. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "102" of the Complaint.

103. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "103" of the Complaint.

104. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "104" of the Complaint.

105. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "105" of the Complaint.

106. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "106" of the Complaint.

107. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "107" of the Complaint.

**AS AND FOR AN ANSWER
TO THE THIRD CLAIM**

108. Answering paragraph "108" of the Complaint, Bruce Bennett Nissan repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "1" through "107" of this Answer as though fully set forth at length herein.

109. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "109" of the Complaint.

110. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "110" of the Complaint.

111. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "111" of the Complaint.

112. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "112" of the Complaint.

113. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph "113" of the Complaint.

114. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "114" of the Complaint.

115. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "115" of the Complaint.

116. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "116" of the Complaint.

117. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "117" of the Complaint.

**AS AND FOR AN ANSWER
TO THE FOURTH CLAIM**

118. Answering paragraph "118" of the Complaint, Bruce Bennett Nissan repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "1" through "117" of this Answer as though fully set forth at length herein.

119. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "119" of the Complaint, including all subparts.

120. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "120" of the Complaint.

121. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "121" of the Complaint.

122. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "122" of the Complaint.

123. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "123" of the Complaint.

**AS AND FOR AN ANSWER
TO THE FIFTH CLAIM**

124. Answering paragraph "124" of the Complaint, Bruce Bennett Nissan repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "1" through "123" of this Answer as though fully set forth at length herein.

125. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "125" of the Complaint on the ground the pleading sets forth legal conclusions, and respectfully refers all questions of law to the Court.

126. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "126" of the Complaint on the ground the pleading sets forth legal conclusions, and respectfully refers all questions of law to the Court.

127. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "127" of the Complaint on the ground the pleading sets forth legal conclusions, and respectfully refers all questions of law to the Court.

128. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "128" of the Complaint on the ground the pleading sets forth legal conclusions, and respectfully refers all questions of law to the Court.

129. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "129" of the Complaint.

130. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "130" of the Complaint.

131. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "131" of the Complaint.

132. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "132" of the Complaint.

133. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "133" of the Complaint.

**AS AND FOR AN ANSWER
TO THE SIXTH CLAIM**

134. Answering paragraph "134" of the Complaint, Bruce Bennett Nissan repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "1" through "133" of this Answer as though fully set forth at length herein.

135. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "135" of the Complaint on the ground the pleading sets forth legal conclusions, and respectfully refers all questions of law to the Court, except admits that all new Nissan vehicles are accompanied with a limited written warranty, and refers to said warranty for its terms and conditions.

136. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "136" of the Complaint.

137. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "137" of the Complaint.

138. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph "138" of the Complaint.

**AS AND FOR A FIRST, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

139. The vehicle described in the Complaint was misused.

**AS AND FOR A SECOND, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

140. Any damages sustained by plaintiff, as alleged in the Complaint, were caused by parties other than Bruce Bennett Nissan.

**AS AND FOR A THIRD, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

141. Any amount that may be awarded to plaintiffs as against Bruce Bennett Nissan must be reduced by the amount received from or indemnified by any collateral source.

**AS AND FOR A FOURTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

142. In the event that any person or entity liable or claimed to be liable for the injuries alleged in this action has been given or may hereafter be given a release or covenant not to sue, Bruce Bennett Nissan will be entitled to protection under applicable law and the corresponding reduction of any damages which may be determined to be due against Bruce Bennett Nissan.

**AS AND FOR A FIFTH, SEPARATE
DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

143. Bruce Bennett Nissan's liability in this action, if any, is several and not joint.

**AS AND FOR A SIXTH, SEPARATE AND
DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

144. Bruce Bennett Nissan's liability in this action, if any, is subject to the limitations on liability set forth in Article 16 of the New York Civil Practice Law and Rules.

**AS AND FOR A SEVENTH, SEPARATE AND
DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

145. Upon information and belief, Kaitlyn M. Delpozso either failed to use, failed to use properly, or misused the seat belts in the vehicle as a result of which the alleged injuries were sustained or aggravated, and she was otherwise in violation of New York Vehicle and Traffic Law Section 1229-c.

**AS AND FOR AN EIGHTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

146. The vehicle and its component parts and systems complied with all applicable safety standards and complied with the state of the art at the time of manufacture and sale.

**AS AND FOR A NINTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

147. Upon information and belief, any damages sustained by plaintiff as alleged in the Complaint were the result of abuse, neglect, and/or improper operation and/or control of the vehicle and/or its component parts, for which Bruce Bennett Nissan is not responsible.

**AS AND FOR A TENTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

148. Modification and/or substantial alteration of the vehicle involved in this case may have caused or contributed to the crash and injuries in question, thereby barring recovery from Bruce Bennett Nissan.

**AS AND FOR AN ELEVENTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

149. Plaintiffs' causes of action sounding in breach of warranties are time-barred by the applicable statute of limitations.

**AS AND FOR AN TWELFTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

150. The imposition of punitive damages in this case would violate the Due Process Clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution because the standards of liability for punitive damages under the law are unduly vague and subjective, and permit retroactive, random, arbitrary and capricious punishment that serves no legitimate governmental interest.

**AS AND FOR A THIRTEENTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

151. The imposition of punitive damages in this case would violate the Due Process Clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution because the standards for determining the amount of the award are unduly vague and subjective, and permit arbitrary, capricious, excessive and disproportionate punishment that serves no legitimate governmental interest.

**AS AND FOR A FOURTEENTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

152. The imposition of punitive damages in this case would violate the Due Process Clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution because the post-verdict review procedures for scrutinizing punitive damage verdicts do not provide a meaningful constraint on the discretion of juries to impose punishment.

**AS AND FOR A FIFTEENTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

153. The imposition of punitive damages in this case in the absence of the procedural safeguards accorded to Bruce Bennett Nissan subject to punishment in criminal proceedings, including a reasonable doubt standard of proof, would violate the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendments and the Due Process Clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

**AS AND FOR A SIXTEENTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

154. The imposition of punitive damages in this case based upon evidence of NNA's wealth or financial status would violate the Due Process Clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

**AS AND FOR A SEVENTEENTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

155. The imposition of punitive damages in this case based on the out-of-state conduct, profits and aggregate financial status of Bruce Bennett Nissan would violate the Commerce Clause, the Equal Protection Clause, and the Privileges and Immunities Clause of the United States Constitution.

**AS AND FOR AN EIGHTEENTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

156. The imposition of punitive damages in this case in the absence of a showing of malicious intent to cause harm to the plaintiffs would violate the Due Process Clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

**AS AND FOR A NINETEENTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

157. The imposition of punitive damages in this case pursuant to New York law to punish Bruce Bennett Nissan for acts that occurred outside of New York's jurisdiction would violate the Due Process Clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution as well as the Commerce Clause of the Constitution.

**AS AND FOR A TWENTIETH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

158. The imposition of punitive damages in this case based on conduct that did not harm the plaintiffs would violate the Due Process Clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution as well as the Commerce Clause of the Constitution.

**AS AND FOR A TWENTY-FIRST
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

159. The imposition of punitive damages in this case based on conduct dissimilar to the conduct that allegedly harmed the plaintiffs would violate the Due Process Clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution as well as the Commerce Clause of the Constitution.

**AS AND FOR A TWENTY-SECOND, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

160. Any award of punitive damages would violate Bruce Bennett Nissan's rights under the United States and New York Constitutions because the standards for imposing such damages under the law are vague, arbitrary, ambiguous and do not define with sufficient clarity the prohibited conduct or mental state which gives rise to such claim.

**AS AND FOR A TWENTY-THIRD, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

161. Any award of punitive damages without proof of every element by clear and convincing evidence would violate Bruce Bennett Nissan's right to due process under the United States and New York Constitutions.

**AS AND FOR A TWENTY-FOURTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

162. Any award of punitive damages without proof of every element beyond a reasonable doubt would violate Bruce Bennett Nissan's rights under Amendments IV, V, VI and XIV of the United States Constitution and substantially similar provisions of the New York Constitution.

**AS AND FOR A TWENTY-FIFTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

163. Any award of punitive damages without bifurcating the trial as to issues of compensatory and punitive damages would violate Bruce Bennett Nissan's rights to due process under the United States and New York Constitutions.

**AS AND FOR A TWENTY-SIXTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

164. Any award of punitive damages would violate Bruce Bennett Nissan's right to due process under the United States and New York Constitutions because it would not protect Bruce Bennett Nissan against multiple punishment for the same allegedly wrongful conduct in the future.

**AS AND FOR A TWENTY-SEVENTH, SEPARATE
AND DISTINCT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

165. Plaintiffs' claim for punitive damages cannot be sustained because there are no meaningful standards for determining the amount of any punitive damage award under New York law. Therefore, any award of punitive damages in this case would violate Bruce Bennett Nissan's due process rights under the United States and New York Constitutions.

WHEREFORE, defendant Motors Group, Inc. d/b/a Bruce Bennett Nissan demands judgment dismissing plaintiffs' Complaint, together with the costs and disbursements of this action, and such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York
March 24, 2014

HERZFELD & RUBIN, P.C.
Attorneys for Defendants
Nissan North America, Inc. and
Motors Group, Inc.

By: 

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